

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
27 May 2004 (27.05.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2004/044524 A3

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: G01C 9/26

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/IB2003/004391

(22) International Filing Date: 6 October 2003 (06.10.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
60/425,297 12 November 2002 (12.11.2002) US  
10/354,167 30 January 2003 (30.01.2003) US  
60/495,137 15 August 2003 (15.08.2003) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):  
COLOURED LEVEL LTD [—/IL]; C/O 11 Nahal Harod St., 40300 Kfar-Yona (IL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): LANG, Joel [IL/IL]; 30 Palmach St., 53406 Giva'atim (IL). STOFFMAN, As-sif [IL/IL]; 11 Nahal Harod St., 40300 Kfar-Yona (IL).

(74) Agents: PYERNIK, Moshe et al.; P.O.Box 10012, 84106 Beer Sheva (IL).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
12 August 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

WO 2004/044524 A3

(54) Title: HIGH CONTRAST SPIRIT-LEVEL VIAL

(57) Abstract: A spirit-level vial comprising a transparent vessel containing a globule of a first liquid suspended in a medium comprising a second liquid, wherein said transparent vessel is essentially completely filled by said medium, and wherein said globule is capable of moving freely through said medium in response to changes in the spatial orientation of said transparent vessel.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB03/04391

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G01C 9/26  
 US CL : 033/379, 391

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 U.S. : 033/379, 391, 396, 366.24, 365

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
 NONE

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
 NONE

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US RE32,570 A (CONN) 05 January 1988 (05.01.1988), column 3, line 38-column 4 line 23.	1-15,17,18,22,23
Y		16
Y	US 6,386,994 B1 (H'DOUBLER et al) 14 May 2002 (14.05.2002), column 5, lines 29-35.	16
A		1-15,17,18,22,23
A	US 5,272,816 A (FUJIWARA) 28 December 1993 (28.12.1993), see entire document.	1-18,22,23
A	US 5,403,001 A (SKORPINSKI) 04 April 1995 (04.04.1995), see entire document.	1-18,22,23

<input type="checkbox"/>	Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	<input type="checkbox"/>	See patent family annex.
*	Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application in order to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"P"	earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"O"	document referring to use, disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 February 2004 (12.02.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report

27 MAY 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

Christopher W. Fulton

Telephone No. (703) 308-0956

*Shawn S. Appel*

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB03/04391

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claim Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claim Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claim Nos.: 19-21 because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

  

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.